HELEN WOODHULL

3340 '59 NUG-4 P2:31

August 2, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-306) Food and Drug Administration 5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061 Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing to you regarding the following 3 Dockets: 98N-1230: 96P-0418; 97P-0197. As you know, these dockets involve "forced Molting" of hens in the poultry industry.

I and so many of my fellow American citizens are becoming extremely alarmed that the FDA is permitting the large industrial "farmers" to pollute our food supply.

Forced molting has been scientifically shown to stress the immune system of laying hens so severely that it promotes a systemic disease in form of salmonella enteritidis. The horrific effects that the hens are subjected to as a result of "forced Molting" have been described to you by your own research immunologist, Peter Holt and by the United Poultry Concerns. Therefore, the FDA must do more than just put a warning label on egg cartons and regulate egg refrigeration temperatures.

<u>Cruelty and contamination are linked!</u> The FDA must ban the forced molting of laying hens because it is clear that forced molting is a primary cause of infectious diseases in hens, eggs, and consumers of eggs.

The FDA was petitioned in April of 1998 to ban forced molting and this petition should be granted without further delay.

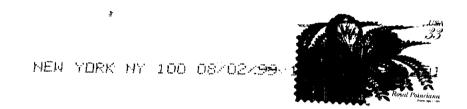
Sincerely.

Helen Woodhull

96P-0418

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CROSS FILE SHEET

File Number: 98N-1230/ **C 5 3**

See File Number: 97P-0197/ C54

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